

Missouri Department of Conservation

Outdoor Education Conference

Conservation Concepts and Outdoor Activities



A FREE Earth Day weekend conference for teachers



April 22-24, 2005
1:00 p.m. Friday to 1:00 p.m. Sunday
Windermere Conference Center
Lake of the Ozarks, Missouri

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Registration starts February 7

Space is limited to 120 participants!
Call Windermere at 800-346-2215 to register.

- ▲ Free admission for non-credit-seeking students
- ▲ Undergraduate or graduate credit option (apply upon arrival Friday afternoon)
- ▲ Lodging and meals provided
- ▲ Supplies and equipment provided

Program description

Earth Day is a great time to learn skills that can strengthen our connection with nature—and enhance our work in the classroom. Join Missouri Department of Conservation's Outreach and Education staff for a weekend full of field and classroom activities that will increase your knowledge of conservation and enable you to include basic outdoor skills in just about any classroom subject.

Who should attend

Outdoor skills are not just for physical education teachers. Junior high and senior high school teachers can use outdoor skills to help maturing students sharpen their psychomotor skills, develop and deepen a code of behavior toward the natural world, and even explore conservation careers.

Key presenters

Workshops will be led by the Missouri Department of Conservation's highly trained and experienced Outreach and Education staff members.

Tentative agenda

Friday afternoon

All participants will learn about Design for Conservation, the Missouri Department of Conservation's mission and history. After reviewing the basics of outdoor preparedness, participants will cook and enjoy a Dutch oven dinner.

Saturday

Participants select one of eight workshop topics:

“Wildlife Management: Backyards to Bean Fields”

What kinds of habitat do wildlife need? How can Missouri's landowners make a place for wildlife on their property? This workshop covers the basics of wildlife management on private lands and includes a visit to a nearby conservation area.

“Shooting Sports and Safety”

This hands-on workshop will help you teach students how to use pellet guns, shotguns and bows safely and skillfully. Hunter Education Instructor certification available.

“Fishing and Water Quality”

Emphasizing healthy watersheds and clean water, this workshop also covers fish classifications, fish adaptations, fishing equipment and how to use it. Topics include how to start a successful fishing program at your school.

“Backpacking, Botany and Bird-Watching”

Backpacking is easy and fun—as long as you have the right equipment and plan ahead. A basic knowledge of Missouri's botany and bird species can enrich your backpacking or day-hiking experience. This workshop covers the equipment, skills and natural history knowledge needed for a safe and satisfying backcountry adventure.



“Historic Skills and Crafts”

What did Native Americans and the first pioneers do to survive in the wilds of Missouri? This workshop explores the ways historic peoples used Missouri’s plants, animals and mineral resources to make food, clothing, shelter and tools. Participants will practice some of these skills, including building a teepee.

“Outdoor Cookery”

“Eating wild” is not only fun, it’s good for you! Where can you get more wholesome food than from wild game, fish and plants. This workshop covers the “why and how” of preparing wild meat, fish, fruits, nuts, greens and vegetables.

“Reading the Water—Canoeing Basics “

Life is a lot like canoeing. You have to be able to communicate with your partner, “read the stream” and know what to do if the water gets rough. This workshop compares and contrasts canoeing on different bodies of water and covers the basics of communication, canoe handling, paddle work and safety and rescue.

“Using the Outdoors to Teach Academic Concepts”

What does canoeing have to do with communication arts? And how do fishing and water quality relate to math class? Learn how to include conservation and outdoor skills in your subject or curriculum.

Equal opportunity to participate in and benefit from programs of the Missouri Department of Conservation is available to all individuals without regard to their race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability. Complaints of discrimination should be sent to the Department of Conservation, P.O. Box 180, Jefferson City, MO 65102, OR U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, 18th and “C” Streets NW, Washington D.C. 20240, Missouri Relay Center—1-800-735-2966 (TDD).

Planning your stay

Facility and lodging

Windermere Christian Conference Center is located in beautiful Lake of the Ozarks near Camdenton, Missouri. Participants will be sharing dormitory-style rooms, four to a room. The facility includes a gym, boat dock and book store.

Meals

Windermere will provide buffet-style meals. If you have special dietary requirements, please indicate this when you call to register.

Clothing

The Outdoor Education Conference will be held, rain or shine. Pack to cover any weather possibility, including rain and snow. Plan to dress in layers. It’s easy it take off a layer if you’re too hot or add one if you’re too cold. Be sure to bring a hat for sunny weather and a thermal cap and a pair of warm gloves for cold weather. Water-resistant hiking or hunting boots are recommended, too.

Restrictions

- ▲ Windermere is a no smoking facility
- ▲ No alcohol allowed
- ▲ No personal firearms allowed
- ▲ No pets (except for seeing-eye dogs)

Confirmations

After registering with Windermere and submitting your completed Participant Information Form, you will receive confirmation, a map and directions to Windermere.

Please call if you can’t make it!

If you discover that you can’t attend the conference after all, please call Windermere as soon as possible. This will give someone on our waiting list the chance to attend in your place.

Participant Information Form

Please fill out this form and refer to it when you call Windermere to register: **800-346-2215**. Be sure to record the registration confirmation number in the space below. When you’ve finished filling out the form and registering with Windermere, please make yourself a copy of the form and mail the original to Bryan Bethel. You’ll find his address at the end of this form.

Windermere registration confirmation #:

_____ (When you call Windermere to register, you will receive a confirmation number. Please record it here before mailing your form to Bryan Bethel. If your form lacks a registration confirmation number, you are not registered for the conference.)

Name: _____

Male or Female

(circle one—necessary for room assignments)

School name: _____

Subject(s) taught: _____

Address (where you want your confirmation details sent):

E-mail address: _____

Phone number: _____

Lodging

Participants will be sharing dormitory-style rooms, four to a room. If you would like to share a room with certain people, indicate who your roommates will be when you call Windermere to register. Make sure all members of your party do likewise. If you indicate no

preferences, you will be grouped with others of your gender on a first-come, first-served basis.

My roommates will be:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Do you have special mobility or dietary needs?

_____ Yes (If yes, contact Windermere at 800-346-2215.)

Choose a workshop

Workshop participants are asked to choose one workshop topic to explore for the weekend. When you registered with Windermere you were asked to indicate which workshop you want to attend. Please indicate that workshop below. If you were put on a waiting list, please indicate “waiting list” by that workshop.

- _____ “Wildlife Management: Backyards to Bean Fields”
- _____ “Shooting Sports and Safety”
- _____ “Fishing and Water Quality”
- _____ “Backpacking, Botany and Bird-Watching”
- _____ “Historic Crafts and Skills”
- _____ “Outdoor Cookery”
- _____ “Reading the Water—Canoeing Basics”
- _____ “Using the Outdoors to Teach Academic Principles”

Please mail your completed Participant Information Form to:

Bryan Bethel
Missouri Department of Conservation
P.O. Box 180
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Windermere is serving only as the host facility for the Outdoor Education Conference. Questions related to programming, childcare, or other such issues are the sole responsibility of the group sponsoring this conference/event and should be directed to Bryan Bethel at (573)522-4115, ext. 3364.